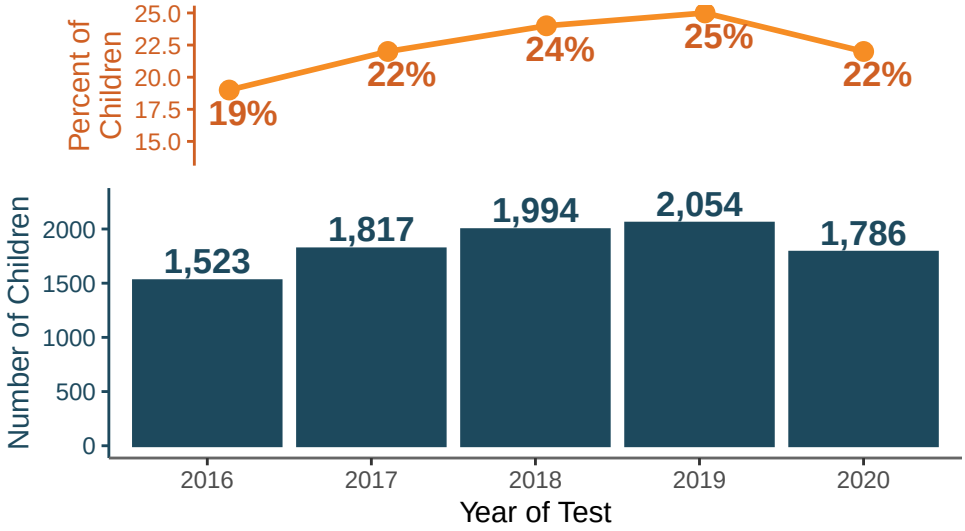
NH DIVISION OF
Public Health Services
Department of Health and Human Services

2020 LEAD EXPOSURE DATA BRIEF
FOR THE SEACOAST REGION

In 2020, in the Seacoast Region 33 children, 72 months or younger, had blood levels high enough to impair their ability to think, learn, and concentrate.

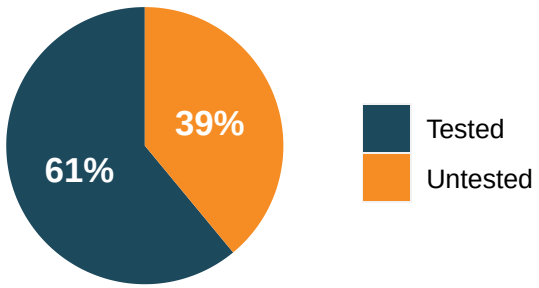
Pediatric blood lead level testing rates across the region and the State dropped due to the COVID−19 pandemic.

Annual Number (and Percent) of Children, 0 to 72 Months Old, Tested for Blood Lead in the Seacoast Region 2016 − 2020



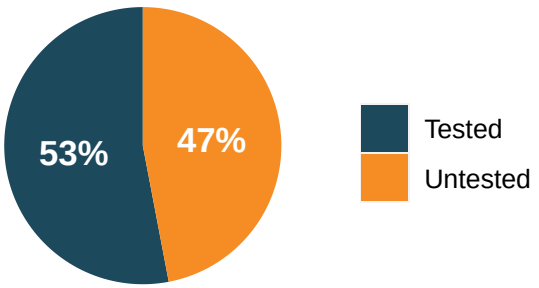
Percent of Children Tested per New Hampshire Screening and Management Guidelines

Percent of One−Year−Old Children Tested for Blood Lead



In 2020, 61% of one year−old (12−23 month−old) children residing in the Seacoast Region were tested for lead in their blood (830 of an estimated 1,366 children).

Percent of Two−Year−Old Children Tested for Blood Lead



In 2020, 53% of two year−old (24−35 month−old) children residing in the Seacoast Region were tested for lead in their blood (732 of an estimated 1,379 children).

In 2018, New Hampshire passed a state law requiring providers to conduct blood lead level tests for all one and two year−old children.

Childhood Lead Exposure by Town

TOWN	AGE GROUP (IN MONTHS)	POPULATION DPHS ESTIMATE 2019	NUMBER TESTED 2020	NUMBER WITH EBLL 5+ µg/dL 2020 ONLY	NUMBER WITH EBLL 5+ µg/dL 2016–2020
EPPING	**0 to 72**	**478**	**132**	**< 5**	**13**
	12 to 23		70	< 5	7
	24 to 35		56	0	< 5
EXETER	**0 to 72**	**864**	**176**	**6**	**24**
	12 to 23		95	5	11
	24 to 35		74	< 5	10
FREMONT	**0 to 72**	**305**	**52**	**0**	**< 5**
	12 to 23		23	0	0
	24 to 35		24	0	< 5
GREENLAND	**0 to 72**	**257**	**56**	**< 5**	**< 5**
	12 to 23		24	0	< 5
	24 to 35		27	0	0
HAMPTON	**0 to 72**	**652**	**145**	**< 5**	**10**
	12 to 23		64	< 5	< 5
	24 to 35		57	0	6
KINGSTON	**0 to 72**	**326**	**80**	**0**	**< 5**
	12 to 23		31	0	< 5
	24 to 35		35	0	< 5
NEWMARKET	**0 to 72**	**656**	**94**	**< 5**	**24**
	12 to 23		43	< 5	13
	24 to 35		39	< 5	< 5
NEWTON	**0 to 72**	**334**	**96**	**< 5**	**11**
	12 to 23		32	0	< 5
	24 to 35		35	< 5	5
NOTTINGHAM	**0 to 72**	**400**	**63**	**0**	**< 5**
	12 to 23		33	0	< 5
	24 to 35		27	0	< 5
PORTSMOUTH	**0 to 72**	**1112**	**267**	**< 5**	**25**
	12 to 23		127	< 5	8
	24 to 35		101	0	6
RAYMOND	**0 to 72**	**687**	**140**	**< 5**	**13**
	12 to 23		68	0	7
	24 to 35		54	< 5	< 5
SEABROOK	**0 to 72**	**482**	**123**	**< 5**	**7**
	12 to 23		55	< 5	< 5
	24 to 35		38	< 5	< 5
STRATHAM	**0 to 72**	**457**	**105**	**< 5**	**< 5**
	12 to 23		55	0	0
	24 to 35		43	< 5	< 5
SEACOAST	**0 to 72**	**8259**	**1786**	**33**	**164**
	12 to 23		**830**	**14**	**73**
	24 to 35		**732**	**9**	**49**

Childhood blood lead test data is from the Division of Public Health Services, Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Elevated blood lead levels (EBLL) 5+ µg/dL is defined as a venous or capillary blood test with a result of 5 micrograms per deciliter (µg/dL) or higher. Exact numbers cannot be reported when there are 1–4 cases due to suppression guidelines to protect privacy.

Characteristics Associated with Increased Risk of Childhood Lead Exposure

TOWN	POPULATION UNDER 6 YO PERCENT (%)	HOUSING UNITS BUILT PRE−1950 PERCENT (%)	HOUSEHOLDS MOVED IN LAST YEAR PERCENT (%)	RENTED HOUSING UNITS W/ CHILDREN UNDER 6 YO PERCENT (%)	UNDER 6 YO LIVING BELOW FED. POVERTY LEVEL PERCENT (%)	UNDER 6 YO IN WITH NO HEALTH INSURANCE PERCENT (%)
EPPING	8 ± 2	19 ± 7	1 ± 1	21 ± 14	20 ± 14	0 ± 3
EXETER	4 ± 1	24 ± 4	6 ± 3	18 ± 9	2 ± 4	0 ± 3
FREMONT	8 ± 3	17 ± 5	0 ± 1	12 ± 13	0 ± 3	0 ± 3
GREENLAND	5 ± 2	9 ± 4	0 ± 1	27 ± 23	0 ± 6	0 ± 6
HAMPTON	3 ± 1	18 ± 3	2 ± 1	24 ± 12	14 ± 11	0 ± 4
KINGSTON	4 ± 2	18 ± 7	5 ± 4	17 ± 16	0 ± 7	0 ± 7
NEWMARKET	6 ± 1	24 ± 5	6 ± 3	29 ± 16	2 ± 5	0 ± 3
NEWTON	5 ± 2	22 ± 7	1 ± 2	13 ± 16	0 ± 5	0 ± 5
NOTTINGHAM	8 ± 4	16 ± 6	6 ± 8	3 ± 7	11 ± 18	0 ± 4
PORTSMOUTH	4 ± 1	42 ± 3	6 ± 2	34 ± 13	5 ± 4	0 ± 2
RAYMOND	7 ± 2	10 ± 3	6 ± 4	48 ± 24	0 ± 2	0 ± 2
SEABROOK	2 ± 1	9 ± 3	3 ± 2	73 ± 23	5 ± 13	0 ± 9
STRATHAM	5 ± 2	9 ± 5	3 ± 3	0 ± 5	0 ± 4	4 ± 8
SEACOAST	**5 ± 0**	**21 ± 1**	**4 ± 1**	**21 ± 4**	**4 ± 2**	**1 ± 1**

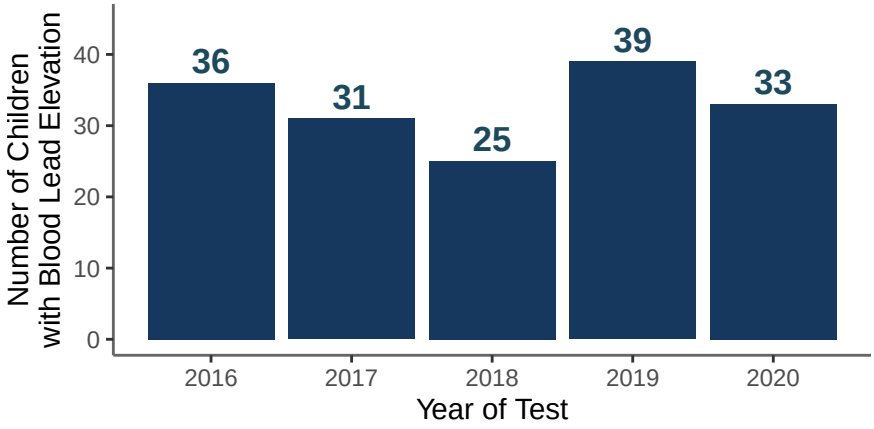
Many factors that increase the risk of a child being exposed to lead are related directly to the child's environment. Where a child and their family members live, learn, work, and play directly impact a child's risk of being exposed to lead. This exposure is primarily through coming into contact with lead dust. Living or attending childcare in pre−1978 housing increases risk as lead paint was not banned until 1978. Lead can also come from drinking water, toys, and cultural cosmetics and medicine.

The data in the table above is to help you understand the risks in your community that contribute to childhood lead poisoning and is from the 5−Year American Community Survey for 2016−2020.

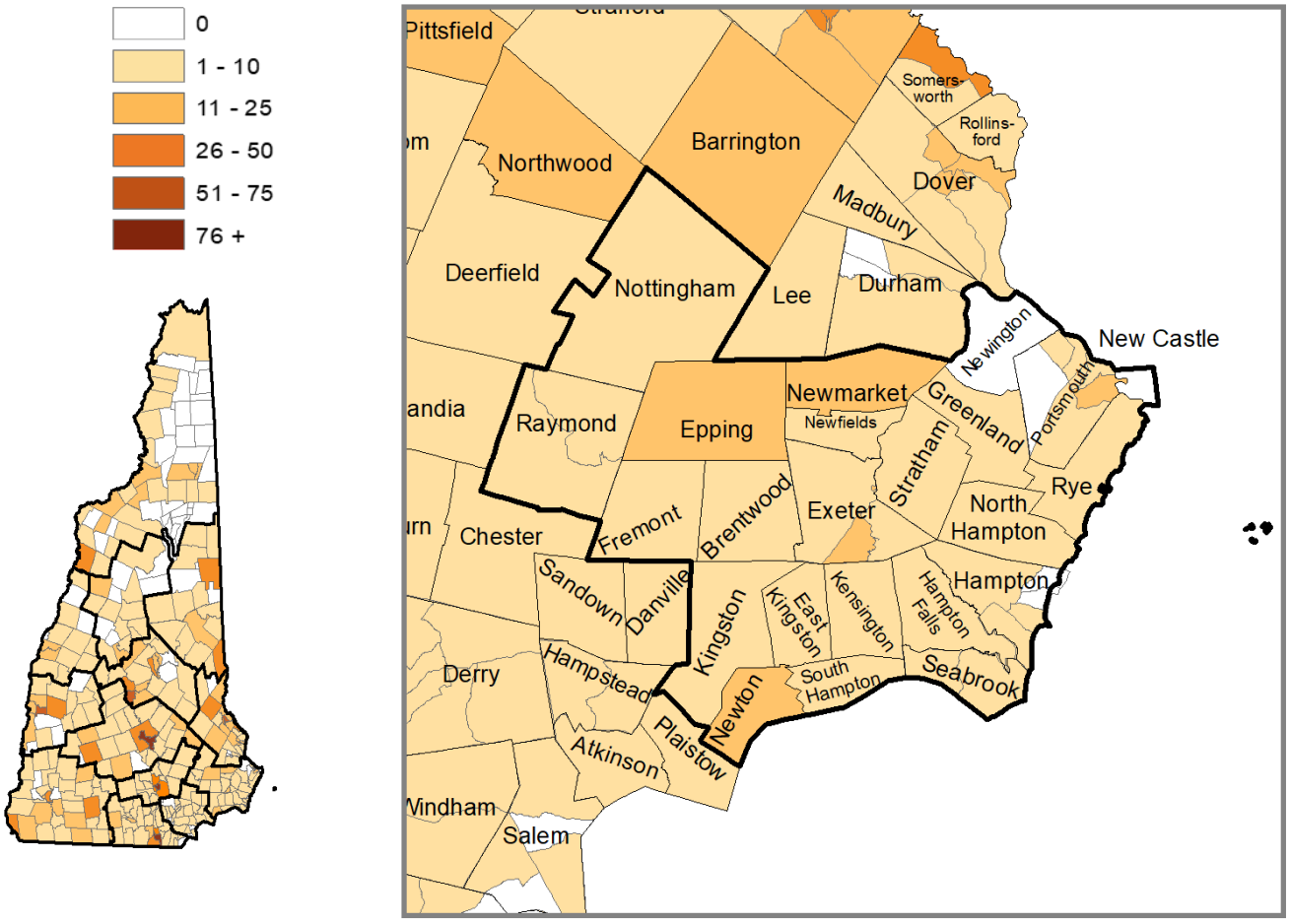
Percent 'Rented Housing' was calculated from housing units with known occupancy status and age of occupants. Percent 'Living Below Poverty Level' was calculated from children in households with income less than the federal poverty level for whom poverty status was determined. When there is insufficient data to present an accurate percent range, 'Not Available' is displayed.

Childhood Lead Exposure

Annual Number of Children 0 to 72 Months Old with Test Above the National Reference Level (5+ µg/dL) Seacoast Region 2016 − 2020



Number of Children 0 to 72 Months Old with Elevated Blood Lead Levels 5+ µg/dL by Town (or Census Tract) in the Seacoast Region, 2016−2020



HEALTHY HOMES & LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

NEW HAMPSHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING NH.GOV/EPHT

NH Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health Services | Concord, NH
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